



Track team battles  
the blizzard of 97  
-SEE PAGE 12

Donde Esta Mis  
Pantalones?



# THE STROBE

## THE NEWSPAPER OF FITCHBURG STATE COLLEGE

Issue 6

Wednesday, April 9, 1997

12 Pages

### New residence living opportunities

By Vanessa Manni  
News Editor

For the coming 97-98 school year, Residence Life Director Christine Corsello announced new living arrangement opportunities on the Fitchburg State College campus. Room selection for the next semester will begin on April 3rd and end on April 10th.

The first of the new additions is called Neighborhood Housing, which is a cluster of rooms that are set aside for a group of eight friends. Currently there are eight Neighborhood Suites in Russell Towers, four suites in Aubuchon Hall, and two in Mara Village. Once a month, the members of these suites, who are on the 19-meal plan, can have a dinner catered to their liking in the comfort of their own suite.

Not only is Residence Life offering the 238 singles that are offered regularly, but they have also announced that 125 "Premium Singles" will be offered. Premium singles are doubles that are not being used, the majority of these being in Aubuchon or Russell Towers.

For those who would like specialty housing, many options are available, such as Quiet Living: living with 24-hour quiet hours; Honors Housing: 12-Month housing for the select few that wish to stay at FSC year-round; as well as Upper-class Housing: junior and senior exclusive housing.

Residence life would like each student considering to live on campus to take into consideration the money that can be saved by staying on-campus at FSC, rather than live in an off-campus apartment.

In the city of Fitchburg, the basic phone service alone costs

see **LIVING** on page 2

### Santiago to lecture at FSC

Author Esmeralda Santiago, author of *When I Was Puerto Rican*, will present a free lecture at Fitchburg State College on April 17 at 7:30 p.m. in the Richard Kent Recital Hall.

Santiago's well-received *When I Was Puerto Rican* traced her family's move from the poverty of rural Puerto Rico to the tenements of Brooklyn. The oldest of 11 children, Santiago ultimately graduated from New York City's famed Performing Arts High School and went on to Harvard and Sarah Lawrence colleges.

Santiago's most recent work is the novel *America's Dream*, which tells the story of America Gonzala, a Puerto Rican woman who escapes a troubled past by moving to New York City.

As well as being a journalist and the mother of two, Santiago also works as a film producer.

Santiago will hold a book signing at the Park Square Book and Bagel located at 621 Main Street in Fitchburg, April 18 at 10 am.

The event is part of the college's New England Writer's Series. For more information, contact Cultural Affairs Coordinator Mary Chapin Durling at (508) 665-3709.



By Susan O'Rourke  
Contributing Writer

The piggybacking program, sponsored by the Education department, furthers first graders Math, Science, and Social Studies skills by learning about the circus.

The piggybacking program consists of students in the Early Childhood Education program working cooperatively as partners with Mrs. Morin's first graders. College students work one-on-one with first graders to discover the children's wants and needs for knowledge.

Lessons prepared by the college students center on topics, *What is a circus?* and *What animals and people are in the Big Apple Circus?*

The trip to experience the Big Apple Circus is planned for Thursday, May 1st. The children and college students will be accompanied by Mrs. Morin and Dr. Suskind into Boston.

Before attending the circus, the college students and children will work on project is facilitated by Dr. Suskind. The project will culminate when all partners build a circus ring with clay-like animals and/or develop circus acts for a story.

These projects will actually be a part of the circus. They'll be displayed at the Big Apple Membership Booth at the circus entrance. Prior to the show, and during the intermission, students and children will have an opportunity to be a part of the circus by displaying their projects and stories, according to Big Apple Headquarters in New York.

This program is beneficial to both the 5th graders and college

see **CIRCUS** on page 2

### Vermont singer visits FSC

by Presley Reese  
Staff Writer

Critically acclaimed music talent James Mee, will perform at Fitchburg State College on April 11, from noon to 2:00 p.m. in the Hammond Student Center Lounge.

Mee is best known for penning his song, *Big Times In A Small Town* which was selected as the title track for an anthology of artists compiled during the Martha's Vineyard Songwriters' Retreat in 1993 (Rounder/Philo label).

James Mee has performed throughout the Northeast. He opened for music legend Arlo Guthrie, among others, and has written and recorded with rock legend Felix Cavillere of the Raspberries.

In August of 1995, Mee released his latest CD, *From A Quiet Place*. Produced by Terry

**He opened for  
music legend  
Arlo Guthrie,  
among others,  
and has written  
and recorded  
with rock legend  
Felix Cavillere**

Cashman and Michael Mugrage, the songs paint an intimate portrait of American life with lyrics

that appeal to people from all walks of life.

According to Len Handterm former creative director of Cherry Lane Music, "Mee's appeal is the love, honesty, humor, and life found in his music."

Other CDs by James Mee include: *American Sky* and *Someday* (Metrostar label). Songs on these CDs have enjoyed radio play in all fifty states via National Public Radio, satellite music network, and college radio.

Internationally, Mee's music has been listened to in places as far away as China, Japan, Italy, England, France, Belgium, and South Africa.

For those interested in demo CDs and/or booking arrangements, call James Mee at (802) 747-4728.

**WRITE FOR THE STROBE  
BECAUSE IT'S YOUR NEWSPAPER**

### In this issue...

PRESIDENT'S CORNER	...see page 5
FEMINISM	...see page 7
SUMMER SEQUELS	...see page 9
TRACK TEAM SHOVELS	...see page 12



## Project Independance

press release

This past month, Common Cause and Campaign for America has launched *Project Independence*, a historic grassroots effort to collect 1,776,000 citizen petitions urging congressional passage of comprehensive campaign finance reform by the July 4th.

Project Independence is the largest grassroots initiative ever launched for its purpose. Its purpose is to activate citizens in the fight for passage of effective and bipartisan reform so to end campaign finance scandals and reform the current system of campaign financing.

Citizens in all 50 states will be asked to sign a "Declaration For Independence" urging Congress to act on real reform.

"Project Independence is the best way for citizens to band together and fight for democracy," Common Cause President Ann McBride said. "And students especially should care very deeply about what money has done to our government. Cleaning up the money scandals has enormous consequences for our next generation."

McBride continued, "Every young person has a deep and vested interest in creating a democracy that responds fairly to all Americans, not just to few, wealthy special interests who today use millions to win tax breaks and lucrative government subsidies. Any student who has taken Political Science 101 knows who loses under the current system - citizens, whose voices are drowned out by the wealthy and whose tax dollars pay for these generous tax breaks and benefits."

Common Cause, the nonprofit and nonpartisan citizens' lobby, joined with Campaign for America, another reform-minded public interest group, in February to launch Project Independence as a way to ensure that the voice of the citizen is heard in Washington.

Project Independence has announced a new toll-free telephone number, 800-454-2634, that citizens can use to sign the petition immediately. Citizens also can sign the petition on the World Wide Web at [www.commoncause.org](http://www.commoncause.org).

Project Independence is urging Congress to act on the bipartisan reform legislation recently introduced in Congress by Senators John McCain(R-AZ), Russ Feingold(D-WI), and Fred Thompson(R-TN) and Representatives Christopher Shays(R-CT) and Marty Meehan(D-MA). President Clinton endorsed the McCain-Feingold reform legislation in his State of the Union message and urged Congress to pass the reform legislation before the fourth of July.

This bipartisan legislation would ban soft money in presidential and congressional elections, curb special-interest contributions to candidates and provide a voluntary system of spending limits for congressional races, coupled with access to free and cost-reduced television time. In short, McCain-Feingold would end the campaign abuses that were at the heart of the 1996 election scandals.

## Related Internships

Every semester and every summer Common Cause offers internships to students from across the country at its Washington, D.C. headquarters. Working closely with staff and volunteers, interns do grassroots organizing, contribute research to policy papers and investigate studies, monitor congressional hearings, and serve as press office aides.

Through training and daily work experience, interns gain a broader understanding of the workings of Congress and the Executive Branch, and learn how a nonpartisan grassroots citizens' organization lobbies elected officials.

Visit the Common Cause web site at [www.commoncause.org](http://www.commoncause.org) or call Common Cause toll-free at 800-926-1064 for more information on Common Cause internships or special opportunities to play an active role in Project Independence, either in Washington, D.C. or in states and communities around the country.

## Help the Hunger and Homelessness Cleanup

April 12

Meet at 10:00am on the QUAD for a rally

Clean 10 worksites throughout the Fitchburg area

Help raise money to combat HUNGER and HOMELESSNESS  
Return at 2pm for Ben & Jerry's **FREE ICE CREAM** and prizes

organized by MASSPIRG as part of the "FSC Year of the Student"

## Poetry contest

press release

Owings Mills, Maryland (USA) Poetry enters the 21st century with a brand new Internet poetry contest, [www.poetry.com](http://www.poetry.com)! All poets, published or unpublished, are encouraged to submit their poems for a chance to win more than \$48,000 in cash and prizes. The deadline for the new North American Open Amateur Poetry Contest is April 30, 1997.

"It's now easier than ever to enter this contest because of the Internet," says spokesperson Howard Ely. "Many poets prefer to enter this way, to make sure that they get their poems in by the deadline date. It's much easier, faster, and more reliable than snail mail."

The contest is free and open to everyone. Beginners are en-

couraged to compete for over 250 prizes. Every poem entered also has a chance to be published in a deluxe hardbound anthology.

People can enter at [www.poetry.com](http://www.poetry.com) or by mailing to The National Library of Poetry, 1 Poetry Plaza, Suite 19811, Owings Mills, MD 21117-6282. The poet's name and address should be included, and the poem should be less than 20 lines. Entries must be postmarked or sent via the Internet by April 30, 1997. A new contest opens May 1, 1997.

Founded in 1982 to promote the work of contemporary poets, the National Library of Poetry is the largest poetry organization in the world.

For more information please call Pamela Roberts at (410)356-2000.

## Cooperative experience

By Kristen Filiatrault  
Contributing Writer

The *Artists Way* program consists of Fitchburg State College Student Teachers in Creative Arts for the Elementary Education Program working in collaboration with Mr. Gaumond's Fifth Graders. One on one creative interaction because college and elementary students, experience a day in the life of a famous artist.

Each college student is paired with one fifth grade student. All paired students research a famous artist. The research entails the gathering of biographical information, identifying artistic technique, and showing examples of the artist's work. Once this information is obtained the partners begin to plan a lesson that they will team teach to the class.

Lesson plans involve creating themes, atmosphere, and art techniques that correspond to the artist. Through materials donated by the McKay Campus School, participants have the opportunity to experience different artistic technique.

Both parties are very enthusiastic about this program. After each Friday meeting the fifth graders and college students write journals describing their feelings about the lesson of the week.

The students meet on Friday's from 12:30 to 1:45. The artwork is displayed on the third floor of the McKay Elementary School, in front of Mr. Gaumond's classroom. This cooperative learning experience, provides an opportunity for all participants to see art from different perspectives.

## Residence Life living

-LIVING

continued from page 1

\$27/month, whereas the rate for phone service, with voice mail and call waiting options, and cable TV and computer hook-up is only \$25 per month for on-campus arrangements.

Overall, an average room on-campus, which is entirely furnished, heat, water, and electricity included, costs roughly \$75 per week, versus the \$500 per month, that an off-campus apartment costs.

Those seeking further information should contact the Office of Residence Life at (508) 665-3219.

## RETRACTION

Alysa Alti was misquoted in last week's *Campus crime still haunts FSC* article. The Strobe apologizes and retracts all statements attributed to Alysa Alti.

## STROBE



*Co-Editors-in-Chief*  
KEITH FREDERICKS  
JOEL HURLEY  
*Managing Editor*  
RACHELLE KOWALSKI  
*News Editor*  
VANESSA MANNI  
*Features Editor*  
NICOLE MOREAU  
JESSICA MCGOWAN  
*Opinion Editors*  
KATHY GEOGHEGAN  
*A & E Editor*  
SARAH ADAMS  
*Sports Editor*  
MICHAEL J. POIRIER  
*Photo Editor*  
PHILIP MAIEWSKI  
*Associate Editor*  
RICK RODERICKS  
*Copy Editors*  
PATTYANN PEZZOLES  
FRED YACKOWSKI  
*Investigative Reporter*  
KIMBERLY WHITE  
*Production Manager*  
BRIAN LAMY  
*Production Assistant*  
VACANT  
*Advertising Manager*  
SETH WERESKA  
*Business Manager*  
RICARDO MELO  
*Faculty Advisors*  
DR. IRENE HARRIS  
DR. NANCY KELLY  
DR. IRENE MARTYNIUK

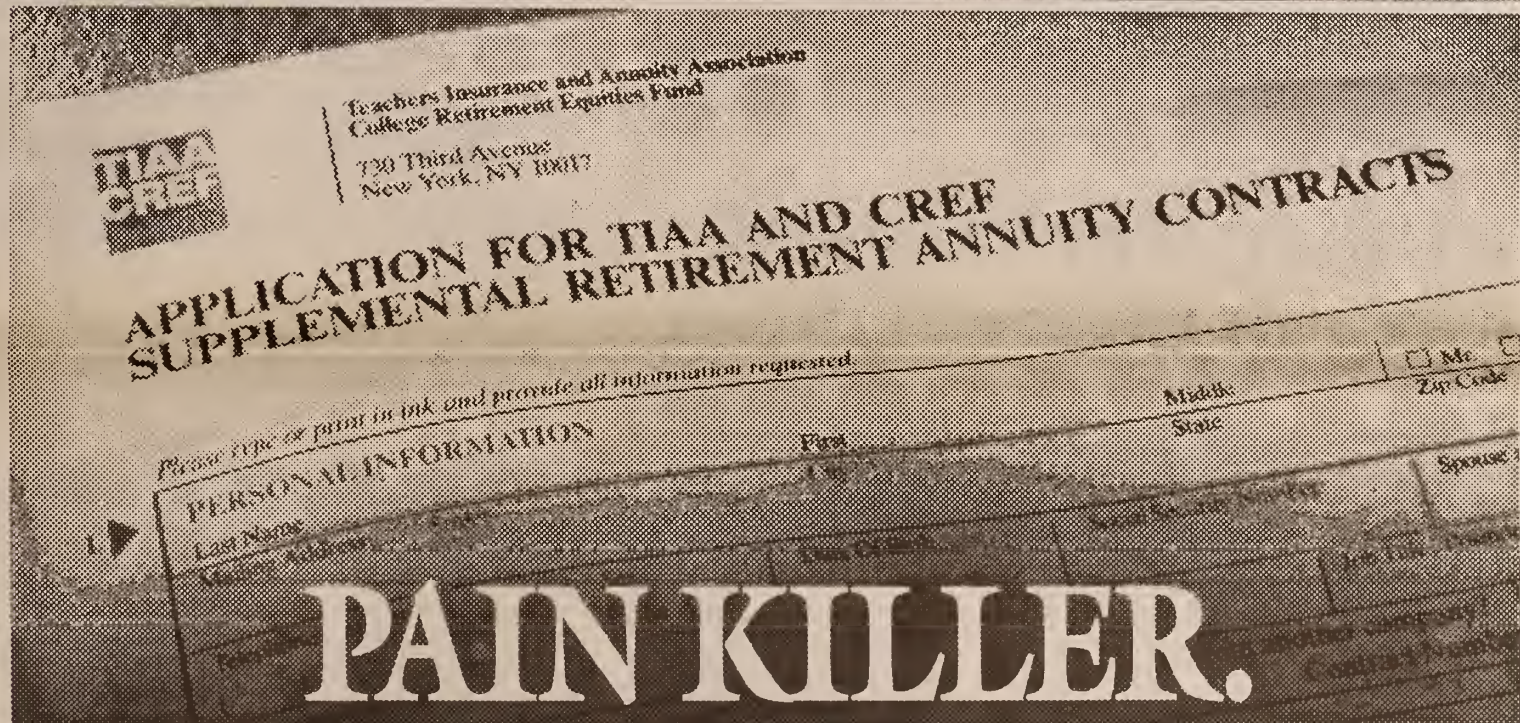
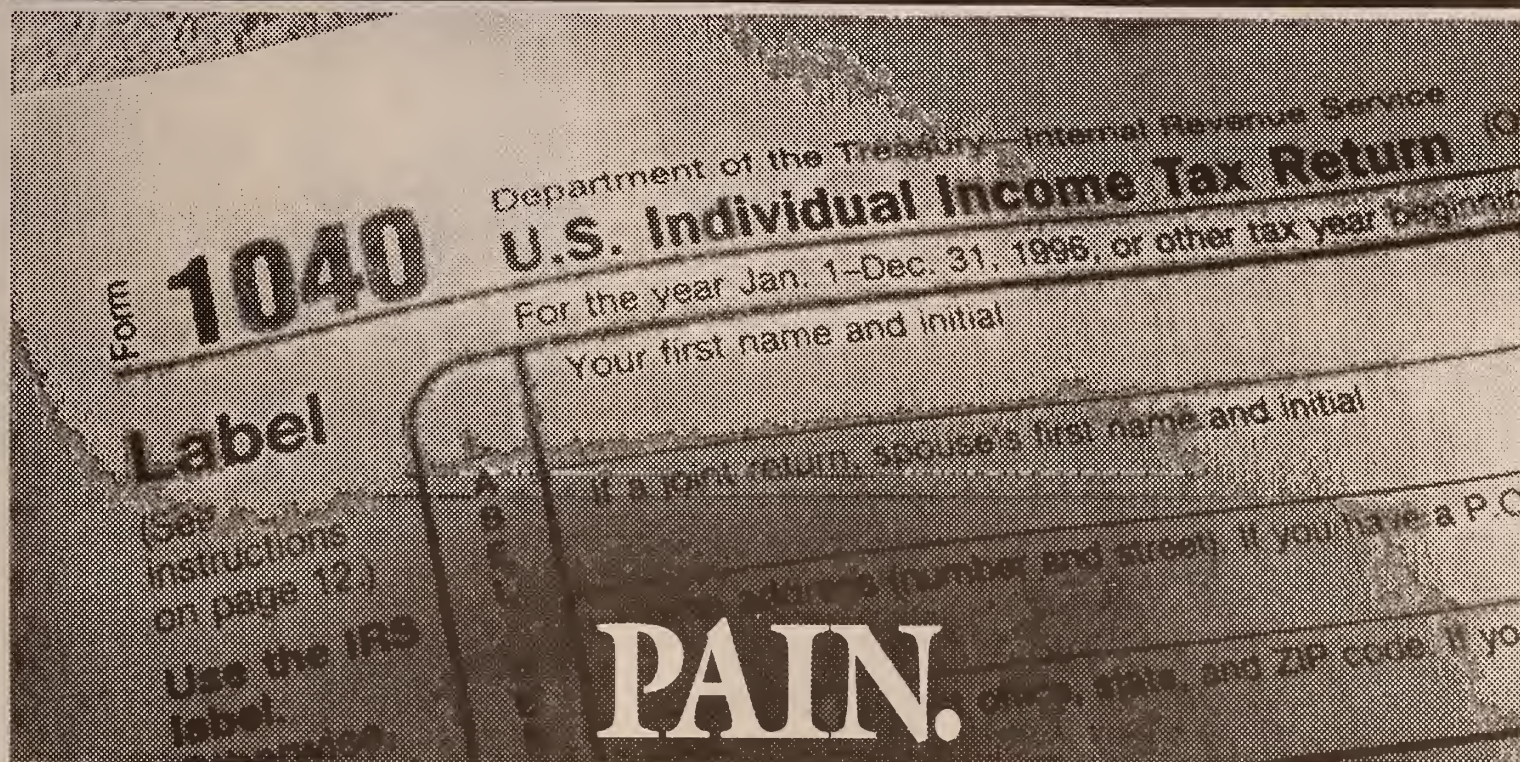
*The Strobe* considers for publication letters to the editor on any topic of interest to the Fitchburg State College community. All submissions run at the discretion of the Editor-in-Chief and are subject to editing for style and length. Documents published in the Opinion section of the Strobe, are the opinion of the writer, and do not necessarily reflect the views of the Strobe, its staff, or Fitchburg State College.

All articles must be typed or legibly hand-written and include a name and phone number in case of questions. All letters in response to a Strobe article must be submitted within two days after the article is published.

Announcements should be short, including dates, places, times and a contact person.

*The Strobe* is the student newspaper of Fitchburg State College. The reprinting of any material herein is prohibited without the express written consent of the Editor-in-Chief. All material submitted to *The Strobe* becomes the property of *The Strobe*.



EXCLUSIVELY *for* FACULTY *and* STAFF

**F**or fast relief from the nagging ache of taxes, we recommend TIAA-CREF SRAs. SRAs are tax-deferred annuities designed to help build additional assets—money that can help make the difference between living and living *well* after your working years are over.

#### Instant tax savings.

Contributions to your SRAs are deducted from your salary on a pretax basis, so you pay less in taxes now. And since earnings on your SRAs are also tax-deferred until you receive them as retirement income, the money you don't send to Washington can work even harder for you.

#### Loans and more.

What else do SRAs offer? A valuable loan option, plus a full range of investment choices and the financial expertise of TIAA-CREF—America's largest retirement organization.\*

#### The sooner you act, the sooner relief begins.

To find out more, stop by your benefits office or give us a call at 1 800 842-2888. We'll show you how SRAs can lower your taxes.

Do it today. It couldn't hurt.

Visit us on the Internet at [www.tiaa-cref.org](http://www.tiaa-cref.org)



Ensuring the future  
for those who shape it."

\*Based on assets under management.

CREF certificates are distributed by TIAA-CREF Individual and Institutional Services, Inc. For more complete information, including charges and expenses, call 1 800 842-2733, ext. 5509, for a current CREF prospectus. Read the prospectus carefully before you invest or send money. Date of first use: 2/97.



## First Lady of Humanities

By Jessica L. McGowan  
Co-Features Editor

On July 1st, the Humanities Department will officially name a new chairperson. Jane Fiske, soon to be Dr. Fiske, was elected as department chair on February 26, to replace retiring Dr. Harry Semerjian.

Jane Fiske will be the first ever female chairperson in that department. There are currently only four female chairs in Fitchburg State College's 17 departments: Dorothy Boisvert, *Clinical Lab Chair*, Nancy Yee, *English Chair*, Sophia Harrell, *Nursing Chair*, and Elaine Francis, *Chair of the Special Education Department*.

Fiske first came to Fitchburg State in 1986 as a part time professor teaching night courses in piano and accompanying the choral arts group. Previously she had attended the New England Conservatory in Boston where she received her Bachelors and Masters degrees. After graduation she taught for five years at

the Walnut Hill School of Performing Arts in Natick, and St. Marks School in Southboro. She also attended the Aspen Institute in Colorado for a couple of summers and taught for Boston University's Young Artists' Piano Program at Tanglewood. Fiske was officially hired into a full-time tenured track position in the Humanities Department in 1989, following the retirement of Lillian Fagerholm. Fiske is currently one of six women of the fifteen members in the Humanities Department.

Since coming to FSC Fiske has witnessed many improvements in the Humanities Department. A new piano lab, complete with a Macintosh computer and two Yamaha electric pianos has been established in the second floor of the Conlon Music building. Also, a lot of new equipment has been purchased in the years that Fiske has taught here including, cds, vcrs, and laser discs players. There were also changes in the curriculum with the addition of a general studies major in Humanities, which did

not exist when Fiske first came to this college.

Research for her doctoral dissertation for Boston University first prompted Fiske to apply for the position of department chair. Fiske's dissertation deals with the percentage of women who teach in colleges with music majors. She found that only 25% of such professors were women, and that nationally there were only 659 women professors teaching in music schools with music education majors of the 32,000 national college professors. Fiske spoke of her decision saying "I am writing about women to be more active and I thought here's an opportunity for me...I felt awkward writing a paper on the limited number of women in the field. I said if I don't like that I better do something."

Jane Fiske is appreciative of her colleagues for the support she received while applying for the position of department chair. She said "It is difficult to do something other women haven't done, unless you feel you have



Jane Fiske

support. It was easy for me to run for chair because I had so much support from my colleagues." Jane gives much of the credit for her deciding to run to her colleagues. "It was the confidence expressed by my colleagues in my abilities that convinced me that I could successfully fulfill the requirements of the position." Jane Fiske also commends

her husband and daughter for their support. "Behind every successful women there is a good man" Jane Fiske said while smiling. "He's [her husband David] been incredibly supportive and thought it would be very good for me to do this." Fiske sums up her gratitude by

see FISKE on page 5

## The inner workings of classroom management

By Jill Fortin  
Contributing Writer

What Works in Classroom Management? was the topic of the presentation given by a panel of teachers at McKay School. The speech, collaborated by the Elementary and Middle School Club of Fitchburg State College, took place in room C199 of McKay campus on Wednesday, March 30th.

"Consistency" was the key phrase of the afternoon. Each of the teachers stressed it as the

**"Consistency" was the key phrase of the afternoon. Each of the teachers stressed it.**

most important factor in classroom management. The first speaker, Mrs. Bonnie Faulkner, a teacher at McKay School, initiated the forum stressing the importance of consistency within the classroom, but then surpassed that idea by saying, "not only in the classroom but throughout the building." Her point was that without support from the school, classroom management becomes harder still.

The second speaker, Pam Lubben, who is currently doing her student-teaching for a

middle school and has six years of substitute teaching experience, said that seeing so many different classrooms enabled her to see "lots of different individual styles in behavioral management." Being stimulated by so many different styles, and dealing with so many students, helped her extract the knowledge that she and all teachers need for "tuning into the individual student."

The final speaker of the afternoon was Dr. Patricia Barbaresi. Dr. Barbaresi is a teacher for Fitchburg State College but spent many years managing an elementary classroom. She said that teachers need to be straight-forward with students from the start. She maintained that the teacher needs to tell the students that, "this is school, this is what is expected of you, and you are here to learn."

Several books were also recommended by the panel of speakers: *Discipline with Dignity* by William Glasser and *Skillful Teacher* by John Sapier are two examples.

A special thanks should be given to the event's host, one of the club's members, and future Classroom Manager, Steve Caristinos, for keeping things running smoothly.

The audience of eighteen teachers and potential teachers were reminded of many useful teaching techniques. Besides "consistency," the most often stressed teaching technique was "humor!" When at all possible, keep the humor.

### Teaching techniques

**"Create a safe, caring, productive environment."**

**"Remember that it is sometimes a case of needing to separate home life from school life."**

**-Faulkner.**

**"Always use eye-to-eye contact when speaking to students."**

**"Teachers should know their school's crisis systems."**

**"Use techniques to keep yourself calm."**

**-Lubben**

**"You and the children should develop your own classroom rules, so they are not breaking the rules, or your rules, but our rules."**

**"If we want children to be respectful, we need to model that behavior."**

**-Barbaresi**

## Student drugs problems

By Kathleen Los  
Staff writer

The use of drugs is prevalent in today's society. Newspapers, magazines, news reports, talk shows, and even political lecturer frequently address America's drug problem. This constant exposure often desensitizes the public to the situation. Focus begins to fall simply on the drugs, leaving people behind.

Ann, an FSC student, who has used drugs such as alcohol, marijuana, cocaine, LSD, and ecstasy, says she started using drugs at age sixteen because she was curious about drugs, and because of peer pressure.

Ann explained that as time went on, drugs became part of her life-style; she likes the fact that drugs allow her to "lose reality and escape problems. They make me more relaxed, more confident...carefree."

On the other hand, she acknowledges that drugs do cause negative affects. She admits that her memory has been adversely affected. Often she finds it difficult to deal with stress, and sometimes she becomes depressed when coming down. In addition, Ann considers spending money on drugs and simply wanting them to be among the negative factors of drug use.

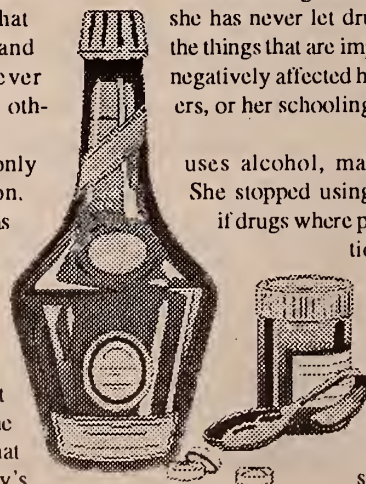
Ann says that between herself and Drugs have never relationships with other the Dean's List.

Ann now only LSD on occasion. because she felt as from fully functionalized that the factors out-the positive "You have to drugs and not let control you," she

Ann thinks that problem in today's admits that drugs are sible, and also believes that children are starting to use drugs at a very young age.

At the risk of sounding like what she refers to as a "total hypocrite," Ann concludes, "Although I chose to use drugs, I believe that they are bad for everyone." She said, "Anything that alters your natural body and state of mind is obviously not good for you."

**"You have to control the drugs and not let the drugs control you."**



she has never let drugs come between the things that are important to her. negatively affected her job, her refers, or her schooling. She makes uses alcohol, marijuana, and She stopped using other drugs if drugs were preventing her tioning; she re-negative weighed ones. control the drugs said. drugs are a society. She easily accessible, and also believes that children are starting to use drugs at a very young age.



# The political gender gap

by Kathleen Los  
Contributing Writer ?

The 1996 Presidential election remains fresh in most Americans' minds. Along with it lingers the talk about the *gender gap*. Many people may be wondering: What is this gender gap?

In *EMILY'S List*, a site found on the World-Wide Web, the gender gap is defined as "a political term used to describe the differences in the political attitudes and behaviors of men and women." The gap is calculated from the percentage differences between the two sexes in regard to their vote/opinion on a specific topic.

For example, a 1995 *U.S. News* survey reported that fifty-one percent of male voters approved of Newt Gingrich, while only thirty-five percent of women did so. In this case, the gender gap would be sixteen percent.

For many years, there has been an assumption that women tend to vote for Democrats,

while men are more likely to support Republican candidates. A study conducted by the National Women's Political Caucus exit-poll data attained by the Voter News Service (from 1990, 1992, and 1994) was used to examine this assumption. The data showed that in Senate races, women favored Democrats, resulting in a 5.4 percent gender gap, and in gubernatorial races, a 4.8 percent gender gap was seen. In the most recent 1996 Presidential election, fifty-three percent of women cast their vote for President Clinton while only forty percent of men did.

In 1990, a survey ran by journalist Sherrye Henry and EDK Associates, a public-opinion consultant agency out of New York, asked seven-hundred women (six-hundred were questioned by phone and one-hundred in person interview focus groups) to name to the two biggest problems they faced.

The responses resulted in a tie for first place between violence against women and pay equity. Balancing a career and a

family was named as the second biggest problem, followed by job discrimination, and child care.

Another survey, displayed in *EMILY'S List*, reports attitudes of women similar to those seen in Sherrye Henry's survey. This survey, conducted from March to August in 1996 questioned four-thousand voters and found a difference in opinion between men and women. The survey asked the participants for their biggest political worry.

Men put highest value on the federal deficit and economy while women named crime, drugs, and moral decline. Women also placed more concern than men on topics such as education, retirement, social security, and health care. Both sexes placed equal value on welfare and affirmative action.

Surveys such as these show that a difference in the political attitudes of men and women truly exist. This difference may potentially impact many political issues.

# The general studies major

By Dean Rios  
Staff Writer

The newly developed General Studies major allows students to create their own major with the aid of a faculty advisor. Students enrolled in the program are offered a broad opportunity to study in three different fields by integrating multi-disciplinary courses to form a tailor-made major where they will have the option of receiving either a Bachelor of Arts or a Bachelor of Science degree.

Students may choose one of two tracts for study, Humanities and Education or Science and Professional (non-humanities) studies. A minimum of three areas of study are requirements for either tract. The Humanities and Education tract is appealing to students pursuing a degree in Elementary, Early Childhood, or Middle School Education because of the new requirements for a double major.

The Sciences and Professional tract is geared towards students whose interests are primarily within the social and physical sciences and non-education disciplines.

Also included as a requirement for the major is a senior year *Capstone Course* which is intended to help students integrate the various fields. This course may consist of either an Independent Study or internship.

Many schools have implemented similar programs in their curriculum. The program is designed to meet the diverse needs and interests of students who wish to pursue a particular field of interest which is not offered in the student catalog.

The title of the major is somewhat misleading; there is nothing *general* about the General Studies major. The program will prepare students for a particular field of interest, although this field may include three majors. For example, one student enrolled in the major has combined Biology, Physical Education, and Business to prepare himself for a career in Personal Fitness. Opposed to majoring in Physical Education and minoring in Business, the addition of the Biology major will better prepare him to access the physiological condition of the clients in a self-procured fitness center.

To declare General Studies as a major, a student needs to meet with the appropriate General Studies coordinator. Dr. Harry Semerjian is the coordinator for the Humanities and Education tract and Dr. Lee Cunningham coordinates for the Science and Professional tract.

Students enrolled in the evening division should contact Dr. George Bohrer. When meeting a coordinator, a student's academic history and career objectives will be discussed. The student and coordinator will work together to recruit at least one professor from each area of study to serve on their General Studies Committee. Once this arrangement has been completed, a meeting of the committee will be held to approve the student's program of study.

## Quote of the week

"I find that the more I understand of things, the more I lose interest in those things."

-James Randolph Dystophono

## Jane Fiske heads Humanities

-FISK  
continued from page 4

saying "I would like to publicly thank my colleagues in the department for their unflinching support of my nomination, and also thank my husband David and my daughter Julie for their understanding and their support."

This is not the first commendation Jane Fiske has received since coming to FSC. Last year she won the "Teacher of the Year" award after being nominated for it 3 consecutive times. This award is determined each year by student vote, and presented at the Honors Convocation Ceremony. Fiske was the first professor from the Humanities Department, ever to receive this award. "This award is from the student population," Fiske said, "which is why it means even more."

In her first appointment with President Riccards after winning the election to become department chair, Jane Fiske found three major areas she would like to see the Humanities Department improve in. These are to make the humanities department more visible rather than remaining just a service oriented department, to acquire a building downtown Fitchburg to display student works, and to buy an or-

gan to replace the one in Weston Auditorium, which was first purchased in the 1960s. The Humanities Department is currently working on a Creative Arts track within the general studies major which will go before the school governance for approval some time this spring. In this track, a student could choose from the art areas of music, fine arts, literature/theater, and dance with half courses in creative studios and half as historical courses for

### Women need to be given an opportunity...

a major emphasis on creative arts. Another option involves students choosing their own major emphasis within general studies. Fiske would also like to update the art studios, the equipment for the art rooms, the equipment for the art history rooms, and new equipment for the language class. Fiske wants to work with her department to accomplish these goals. "I am committed to working with each member of the department," Fiske says "to achieve our common goals, be that mission proposals, curriculum development, and schedules and room assign-

ments, from the largest to the smallest concerns."

Jane Fiske would like to see other women follow in her footsteps. She feels that women deserve an equal chance, but not favoritism. She said "in general they [women] need to be given an opportunity, but first and foremost they should be qualified. People should be open-minded that there are women out there applying for positions, and if they are qualified they should be considered too." The gender issue still confounds Jane Fiske. "I just find it odd that there's a problem," she says. "They first shouldn't say 'are you a man, are you a woman?' They should just ask are you competent to do the job."

Fiske will be the Humanities Department Chair for the next three years. She is also looking forward to receiving her doctoral degree from Boston University on May 18, at 4pm in the BU theater on Huntington Ave. in Boston. After that she plans to perform a concert to christen the new 7' Steinway grand piano FSC acquired. First, however, she'll take a much deserved rest. Jane Fiske, soon to be Dr. Fiske, is a shining example of what women can achieve. "I look forward to serving my department to the best of my ability" said Jane Fiske.

## Drug recovery

By Jeff Hook  
Contributing Writer

It is a cold winter night on Wyman Road in Woburn. A white house with black shutters sits on a slanted hill overlooking the neighborhood. A young man sits in a dimly lit room searching endlessly for something decent to watch on television. His name is Steve, and for the past two years he has been a recovering from his heroin addiction.

"Believe it or not, I remember the first time I tried it. It's probably how most people my age got into it. I was at a party," Steve said. He says he didn't intend to use drugs at the party, but like many people, intoxication lead to a regretful act. "Of course there are times when I wish I could take it all back, but I need to deal with what is going on in my life now."

His addiction almost cost him his relationship with his parents; in many ways the relationship he once had with them is gone forever. Now when Steve comes home late, his parents look him over to make sure he hasn't fallen off the deep end again. "The toughest thing to deal with is how people treat you once they find out," he said. "It's almost as if they're expecting you to screw up again."

Steve admits that his parents have good reason to be suspicious of him. He would steal checks from them, and forge their names for drug money. Once he sold a stereo he got from his grandmother for Christmas to support his habit. "That's one thing about heroine, it makes you do things that are so crazy that when you look back on them you say to yourself 'was

see DRUGS on page 11



## Do you know where our money is going?

By Pattyann Pezzolesi  
Contributing Writer

I would like to share my opinion on a serious subject. I feel this is an important topic, not only to our present, but our future as well. Do you ever wonder where all your money goes when you pay taxes? More importantly, why the United States is so in debt? America is supposed to be one of the wealthiest countries in the world and yet the country is so much in debt that it will never be able to recover.

The Government wastes millions of dollars on useless events such as the dinner parties for the President and upper class. The government buys all kinds of weapons that aren't being used. Then people wonder why there are homeless and starving children who are malnourished and have diseases that are forced to live in poverty. Yet people still do nothing to stop the suffering of innocent people and don't bother to help bring them out of their decaying conditions they are forced to live in. People live in a bubble and think if the problem is ignored then the problem will just go away. Well it is not going away and we have America, supposedly "the land of opportunity" to thank for it. That may sound harsh, but it's the truth. If you don't want to face the truth then keep living in your bubble.

What is it that the government wastes its money on? There is no answer to that. You know why? Because the government doesn't want us to know because they have the

***I hate seeing kids so malnourished that their ribs are almost popping out, not to mention their stomachs bulging out looking like beer bellies.***

power to keep us from knowing this information. POLITICS is the main reason why they are so powerful and we (the common good) can't fight this power. Politics uses paperwork as a power to stall the American public from finding out why. A human life has come down to politics. The government doesn't care about the homeless people who are living in cardboard boxes behind back alleys, sleeping in the cold, being snowed on, having to wake up to rats picking at their flesh, struggling every day to survive, picking out of rubbish cans for any scraps

they can find. This picture doesn't bother these politicians because they have their fancy thousand dollar suits and limos to secure their lives.

Then again I'm sure the innocent children being born into poverty won't bother them either. Well it bothers me to see those organizations on T.V. who urge people to adopt a child who lives in these conditions. I hate seeing kids so malnourished that their ribs are almost popping out, not to mention their stomachs bulging out looking like beer bellies. These starving children's stomachs are and in such desperate need for food that their bodies aren't getting enough of what is needed to fully develop properly. Their innocent faces are filled with such grief and suffering. They show babies born with diseases who are so malnourished that they can barely breathe. These children did nothing to deserve this suffering as a way of life and have no hope that things will even get better for them. They don't realize that things will never get better because no one will lift a finger to help them. They are victims of their own fate.

Politicians spend thousands of dollars telling us they are here to help, but the only thing they do is make empty promises. Politicians tell us what we want to hear and then forget what they promised once they get elected.

This issue still stands unnoticed and there will continue to be homeless people on the corners and in alleys. Which brings me to another point. The reason people don't bother to help the homeless is that they are afraid of them because of their appearance. I'm sure nobody looks so hot after rummaging through a trash can. If people took the time to look past their appearance and offer them a meal or a

***People, get out of your bubble because the homeless are human beings and they do exist.***

chance to get out from their situation, then there would not be homeless people in the streets. All the homeless people need is a chance to get out of the life they are in.

To help the homeless all people need to do is offer simple solutions. Try recommending a place they could go to such as a shelter or a half-way house so at least they will have a warm place to sleep while they get their lives back in order. One

***Continued on page 7***

**NEW DATE!**



Mother Nature did not care about our April Fool's Job Fair. She tried to ruin it with snow but APRIL 11th is a GO! We will laugh right in her face bring a shovel just in case!

### JOB FAIR

New Date  
FRIDAY, APRIL 11th  
10 AM - 2 PM  
Hammond G-Rooms

## CR Goody's Pub

**Newly Remodeled Pub**

**Every Thursday**

**18+ College Party  
(NO COVER BEFORE 10PM with  
Fitchburg State College I.D.)**

**Starting in May**

**"Miss HAWAIIAN TROPICS"**

**Swimsuit & Model Search Contest - 12 Weeks of Competition**

**April 24 - New Pond Fondle (3 Bands)**

**April 18 - Bruce Jacques**

**May 9 - Zo-So**

**'If you liked Physical Graffiti, you'll love Zo-So'  
Direct from L.A. California  
#1 Rated Led Zeppelin Tribute Band in the USA  
Only area show of this East Coast  
Don't miss this band!**

**281 Lunenburg St. Fitchburg Mass. • 345-4477**

**NEW!  
2 POOL TABLES  
TOURNAMENTS  
EVERY SUNDAY  
CASH PRIZES**

**NEW!  
DRAFT  
SYSTEM  
16 BEERS  
ON TAP**

**EVERY WED.  
KRAZY KAHLUA  
AND  
CASH KARAOKE  
CONTEST**

**THE  
BEST  
ENTERTAIN-  
MENT  
IN THE  
CITY**



# Being a feminist is not a bad thing, really

By Jessica Roy  
Staff Writer

I have realized through my four years at Fitchburg State College that I am part of a dying breed. I have never liked to categorize people. So, please save the labels for the boxes and cans at the supermarket. But I can't help but ask, where the hell

***The women they are hurting are someone's sisters and mothers. Perhaps yours.***

are all of my feminist sisters?

Is FSC another morally-starved, backwards micro-society, with the female and male population not being able to distinguish women from doormats? Are the students minarets, dancing about through their college career blissfully unaware of the war being waged on women in this country?

I have come to the devastating conclusion, only a few men and women on this campus give more thought to the welfare of women, than to their next meal at the cafeteria. I walk by crowds of people at the mail

boxes and G-Lobby insulting and mentally back-stabbing their mothers, female professors, and girlfriends. Have we all no shame? Have we no sense of how devastating these words are not only to the female population at this college, but to our society as a whole?

My brothers and sisters, if you are not outraged, you aren't paying attention! Wake up before the statistics of violence against women in Massachusetts jump from a disgraceful, one out of every three women being assaulted within their lifetime, to one in every two.

Is anyone getting the picture? Is anyone noticing the resulting violence all too often stemming from keg parties? Don't be fooled! This is a reality which many times is shamefully covered up by victims of dating violence and drunken brawls.

Women, you do not have to tolerate men who abuse women. The days of dressing up in frilly gowns and daintily clutching your parasol in an attempt to be the ideal and docile Southern Lady went out with slavery. Speak out against the violence which plagues your gender. Respect will only be passed on to you when you respect yourself and your sisters.

When you do decide to take on a feminist position, you may be pelted with verbal dirt for

your new found power and your roar, but I can think of many things worse than being called a, "Feminist." After all, a feminist is not a "radical male-basher," or a "hardened bitch on

***Men, I challenge you to confront other men who you know violate other women.***

wheels," but any person who cares about the welfare and well-being of women. Within this context, how many of you can call your friends feminists?

The issue of violence is one few are brave to recognize, never mind fight head-on. Men, I challenge you to confront other men who you know violate women. This is important because people who violate women, rarely stop there. The women they are hurting are someone's sisters and mothers. Perhaps yours.

The violence is real and continues to find its home on the FSC campus. Those who don't honor the truth of this epidemic and help stomp it out are helping to perpetuate it. Which side of the fence do you want to live on?

## Fitchburg in need of employment opportunities

By Maxime Polynice  
Staff Writer

He stood at a distance mumbling something to his female companion. She was a short, frail, woman, about twenty five years of age. Her hair was messy and the young man himself seemed to have just awoken. He was slim with a short hair cut, black, about twenty two years old. He looked one last time at her as to say "come here" but she remained there motionless as if she wanted him to follow her instead.

Suddenly, he took a fatal turn at the corner of the parking lot. There he sat in a fetal position waiting for a passer-by to ask for money. When I walked by him, he stood up promptly. Perhaps thinking that all his problems were about to be solved. He called out to me and when I didn't respond, he persisted and called me once more. He seemed to be in a foggy state because he could not express himself. I kept walking.

About five minutes later I proceeded to go food shopping within the same complex. As I entered the store, I saw him walking along the aisles.

He looked alone and desper-

ate. I got what I needed and entered the cashier's line. This is when I saw the young black man being led to the manager's office. The manager was on the phone and his assistant stood next to the thief restraining him pending the arrival of the local police.

The thief glanced desperately

***Dogs and cats are living like kings, while humans are sleeping outside in the cold winter.***

at me. I turned to my right and saw a white lady buying about 60 cans of dog food. I couldn't stop comparing the level of poverty of these two people, meaning the thief and the lady.

Yes in this big country magnificent country some domestic animals are better fed than humans. I ask myself whether or not helping him with some change would have made a difference. Dogs and cats are living like kings, while humans are sleeping outside in the cold win-

ter. I can't take the problems of the world on my shoulders like Atlas, Nor can most people, given the abilities and time.

As a college town, there are no reasons why there should be so much poverty and pain in the surrounding streets. The city government has enough power to increase employment opportunities in Fitchburg.

Fitchburg State College to my knowledge isn't sufficiently involved in the community that surrounds it. Yearly neighborhood clean-ups are good but it would be better to use some political pressure directed at the local government in order to force them to create employment for the community as a whole.

Since many of the students here contribute to the wealth of local businesses, there are no reasons why I should have to witness those continuous acts of economic despair. Last summer, Mayor James Bean received a letter from me criticizing the lack of minority presence in the businesses of his city. There is a strong chance that a second letter will be sent. However I would love to get involved in some sort of committee to challenge the current employment situation here in Fitchburg.

## Is it possible to graduate in four years anymore?

By David MacMaster  
Contributing Writer

Once again it is time to register for classes. The thought of scrambling to find courses that fit into a decent schedule, while meeting as many requirements as possible, is frightening. Meeting every requirement is easier said than done, especially in a four year time span. The problem is not the number of requirements, but the availability of the courses that satisfy these prerequisites.

How many times have you tried to sign up for a particular course and it was closed? If you were lucky enough to get into that course, how many empty seats were still available in the classroom? If the school notices that there is a high demand for a particular course, they should offer more sections.

How many times have you needed a particular course to fulfill a particular requirement, but the course was only offered every other semester? How can students determine when their re-

quired courses will be offered. Selecting courses should not be as probable as playing the lottery. These situations should not be occurring time and time again. How are hundreds of students within each major supposed to satisfy all the requirements in their field of study if the courses are not made available by the college?

Everywhere you look there are constant improvements to better the quality of education; new computers, internet connections in all the classrooms, and plans for the athletic facility. The college should consider making an investment to increase the number of courses available. If more faculty members are needed, then the effort should be made to satisfy the demands of the students. Then graduating in four years would seem more like a reality than a dream.

***How many times have you tried to sign up for a particular course and it was closed?***

## Money Continued from page 6

could buy a meal for a homeless person so they could get through the next day. Even going as far as to personally bring them to a shelter and make sure they get settled in. To solve this problem it doesn't take much as long as people are willing to give a little of their time and put some work into solving the problem.

Appearance is everything in politics. If you are not wearing nice clothes and you don't have money, you may as well be invisible. Just like the people who right walk by the homeless and treat them like they are not even there, I've got news for you. People, get out of your bubble because the homeless are human beings and they do exist. It is time people recognize that the homeless are human and not throw-rugs which people can just walk by. These homeless do exist. Pretending they do not isn't going to solve the problem.

The money is being spent. I'm sure the President wouldn't die if he were to limit his vacations. The amount of money it must cost for the President to take all these vacations could be used in a start to rid the problem of hopelessness and starving kids. He could use that money to give to the homeless for meals and clothing. He could also use it to ship supplies such as medicine, food, and clothes to the various parts of the country that need help.

It's true that the President can't do it all himself, but if everyone in the legislature budgeted their money better and if people started to give a damn, then we could start to help these people.



## Open mic brings out the best of Fitchburg

By Jessica Roy  
Staff Writer

Every other Wednesday, Stooges Pub, the new hot spot for dining and entertainment located on River Street in Fitchburg, offers an open stage for local talent from 9 pm to midnight. Hosted by acoustic guitarist/ singer Mike Ordway, the evening starts with an acoustic set from 8 - 9 pm. Ordway's flair for crowd-pleasing cover tunes and charismatic entertaining makes for an enjoyable evening. He is sure to please with a wide range of styles, from Pink Floyd to contemporary favorites such as Live.

Pool tables and darts are available for those who enjoy sports while listening to local artists. All types of acts are welcome, including instrumental music, singing, and comedy. Have dinner while you check out performers from the local area. The next open mic session is scheduled for tonight.

## CINEMA WORLD

**John Fitch Highway,**  
**Fitchburg**  
**345-6700**

**Anaconda (PG-13)**  
**12:30-2:30-4:30-7:15-9:30**

**Liar Liar (PG-13)**  
**12:30-2:30-4:30-7:15-9:30**

**The Saint (PG-13)**  
**12:45-3:30-7-9:30**

**Grosse Pointe Blank (R)**  
**12:45-3:30-7-9:30**

**Devil's Own (R)**  
**12:45-3:30-7-9:30**

**That Old Feeling (PG-13)**  
**12:45-3:30-6:45-9**

**Jungle 2 Jungle (PG)**  
**12:45-3:30-6:45**

**Double Team (R)**  
**3:30-9:30**

Listings for 4/11 - 4/13

Call for additional  
showtimes 345-6700

## Book reviews by FSC Students

### Go Ask Alice

By Jen Majeran  
Staff Writer

*Go Ask Alice* is the story of a fifteen-year-old drug user, who eventually dies of a drug overdose. Alice is a normal teenager with normal problems, until she gets involved with the wrong crowd and finds that her problems escalate because of her addiction to drugs.

The book is written in diary format from Alice's perspective; her diary is her best friend. This book is quite disturbing and, unfortunately, quite real. In one passage, Alice writes, "Anyone who says pot and acid are not addicting is a stupid, raving idiot, unenlightened fool!" Through-

out her story, Alice is on a relentless struggle to purge her drug addiction, but to no avail.

Alice does many horrible things to get drugs, including trading sexual favors to keep her addiction going. Alice cannot, either mentally or emotionally, live without drugs, which leads the reader to believe she must be suffering from a major depression. The story is sad; Alice has no real friends to turn to, her only acquaintances are addicts that have no desire to stop. Her blinded but loving parents refuse to acknowledge her problem.

The book is disturbing, yet compelling - it makes the reader really feel for Alice, and allows us to identify with others in our own lives who may have the same problem.

### A Long Line of Dead Men

By Alexa Reed  
Staff Writer

An ancient group, an odd fraternity was created to celebrate life by celebrating the dead members. This group of thirty-one prestigious men gathered annually to discuss the events of their lives over the past year. Their attendance at all meetings was mandatory, and absences were inexcusable.

Over the years, the members of this morbid society noticed their numbers were thinning. In the twenty years they'd been meeting, 17 of their members had died of suicide and suspicious random accidents.

Enter Matthew Scudder, ex-police officer, recovering alcoholic, and unlicensed private investigator. Scudder is hired to learn if the deaths really are as they appear, or if it is possible that these members had been murdered.

Through his narration, the detective brings his readers through a winding

tale of love, mystery, and humorous stories. The only female character in the book is Scudder's long-time love, Elaine, who is sassy and smart. Elaine influences the story without getting involved in the mystery. Another interesting character is Scudder's former drinking buddy, Mick Ballou, who tells a number of humorous tales about his "connected" family in Ireland.

The most interesting part of this book is the number of side-tracks it takes from the actual solving of the case. In fact, the story could almost stand on its own without the mystery getting in the way.

*A Long Line of Dead Men*, by Lawrence Sanders, is available in paperback from Avon Books, and is just one of the Matthew Scudder mysteries. Others by Lawrence Sanders include *The Devil Knows You're Dead*, *A Walk Among the Tombstones*, *A Dance at the Slaughterhouse*, and *Time to Murder and Create*. Block's short story collections include *Some Days You Get the Bear*, and *Sometimes They Bite*.

### Nisei Daughter

By Alexa Reed  
Staff Writer

It wasn't that many years ago that I learned that World War II had witnessed both the Hiroshima bombings and the Concentration Camps. I don't know how old I was. I do remember the sadness I felt swell inside, fueled with shock. I shuddered at the thought of one world being so filled with hate all at once. But that shock paled in comparison to the one felt when I learned that America had locked up thousands of her own citizens, though they were guilty of only one crime: Japanese ancestry.

Racial fear and ignorance reached its climax on "the day of infamy," December 7, 1941. It was a Sunday morning and Americans had been viciously attacked on their own soil. Because the offenders were Japanese, America retaliated maliciously. With the reason that the Japanese were "stealing American jobs," and under the guise of national security, all Japanese persons and all people of Japanese ancestry were locked up to prevent them from being spies to Japan.

Monica Sone's book, *Nisei Daughter*, tells the same situation from a different angle: through the eyes of an American daughter of Japanese immigrants. The combination of two cultures caused confusion in deciding which to choose, and feelings of isolation in the knowledge that she didn't fit completely into either one.

Monica's autobiography is filled with sorrows and cheer. She offers her readers her eyes to view the world with, and her humor to help us through it. One feels as if it is his/her family suffering in the camps. The reader sees the five members of their own family living in the same small room, using an out-house, and surviving on DAKA-like mush for more than two years. Through her words, it is possible to feel as if you are the one who stepped in the quicksand-type muddy ground, wishing for freedom, answers, and galoshes.

Monica's affiliation as an American did not waver. She did not relate to herself as a Japanese person, though she ate rice for breakfast, spoke Japanese, and attended a Japanese school. She talked of wiping the Japanese off of her after lessons were done, of meeting "real Japanese," and in the end, discarded her first name, "Kazuko," in favor of her middle name, "Monica."

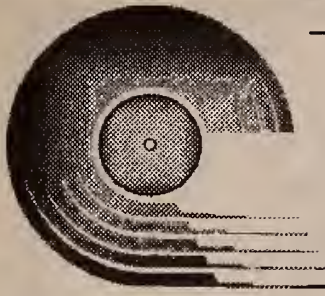
What stands out most is her sense of humor, even in dark times. She found a way to view the camps as a social injustice, and still find beauty and happiness inside them. Her mother, a Japanese poet, kept citing something wonderful about each new campsite: the mountains or the river. Her father, a hotel manager reduced to slave, did what he could to make the tent a home.

Monica's book is more than history and more than autobiography; it is a well-written piece of prose. It offers an insight into the mind of another person. It offers insight into learning that one has "Japanese blood," and what that actually means. For Monica, it meant extra schooling, discrimination, and confusion of self. But, it also meant a deep history, a profound learning experience, and an admirable sense of self.

In reading this book, I saw Monica's world through her eyes. I also saw her, not as a Japanese person, not an author or narrator, but as my friend. In finishing her story, I felt I'd made a new friend and had come closer to understanding others as well as myself. With the closing of the back cover, I felt deeply enriched and completely satisfied.

**A Midsummer Night's Dream will be performed  
this weekend, April 10 - 12,  
at 8pm in McKay Auditorium.  
Cost is \$4 for students, \$7 general admission.**





## CD reviews: U2 *Pop*, and Freddy Johnston *Never Home*

By Frederick Yackowski  
Staff Writer

U2 *Pop*  
Island 314-524 334-2  
\*\*\*\*

What do Glenn Danzig, David Bowie, Everything But the Girl and U2 have in common? All of their latest efforts take a shot at techno. U2 clearly succeeded at this task the best, which is ironic, because they take the biggest leap. Going from pop-rock to techno-pop is a mighty audacious move.

Let's face it, U2 has had a long, productive career. At any time they could easily rest on their laurels and churn out middle of the road radio fodder that would continue to line their wallets. Instead U2 have done the opposite, they have created challenging work after challenging work. Fortunately these challenges continue to line their wallets.

U2's *Pop* further delves this mainstream band into the alternative nation. This time around U2 incorporates samples and loops to create the electronic tracks that they aim for. They achieve a highbred disco-pop style that will appeal to techno fans.

Actually, the first three tracks *Discotheque*, *Do You Feel Loved* and *Mofo* sound like dance music at breakneck speed. On the strength of these tracks alone, the album is a success. U2 proves that they can successfully experiment in other genres without sacrificing the quality of their songwriting ability.

The remainder of the album slows the pace down a notch or

two. For example, *Staring at the Sun* is a mid-tempo number that contrasts shiny guitar chords against electronic drum and bass to great effect. Yet it's really Bono's vocal that turns the track into a slice of Beatlesque pop.

It's important to remember that all of U2's experimentation would not have been if Bono didn't deliver the goods. He croons over the disjointed beats and funky rhythms turning this curveball of an album into another triumph for U2. Chalk another one up in the win column.

By Frederick Yackowski  
Staff Writer

Freddy Johnston *Never Home*  
Elektra 61920-2  
\*\*\*\*

Music snobs are always the first to point out the limitations of pop music. From what I understand, their point is this: writing pop songs only requires a handful of chords and a couple catchy phrases sung (term used loosely) by an attractive spokesperson.

But as Freddy Johnston can tell you, it's not as simple as that. He knows that being a great pop musician doesn't guarantee fame and the success that follows. And let's face it, fame (or the jealousy of) is probably the motivation of a music snob's negativity. So where does this leave Freddy Johnston? Approximately two steps from stardom and three steps from the bargain bin.

Johnston's previous two efforts, *Can You Fly* and *This Perfect World* were masterworks that came early in his budding

career. Unfortunately, Johnston's latest effort, *Never Home* doesn't quite live up to his previous potential. In fact, the first track called, *On the Way Out* is by far the catchiest tune on the album. And since it is the first track, it makes the rest of the album a chore to listen to. Which is a shame, because Johnston's albums have been described as many things before, but a chore wasn't one of them.

The first side of the album proves to be the stronger of the two. Songs like *One More Thing to Break* and *Western Sky* are fine examples of Johnston's songwriting ability, and that's where Johnston's talent really lies. In his songwriting.

For this album Johnston surrounded himself with a band of crack musicians. Certainly they make the well written tracks sound better than anything Johnston has done previously. Conversely songs like *Seventies Girl* and *If It's True* have a forced sound that makes even this group of talented musicians sound like a 80's bar band. But out of all the musicians brought in for this record drummer Stan Lynch provides the best performance. He is more than your garden variety 'rock solid' drummer, he brings style and adds punch to all of the tracks. Lynch is also one of the few who truly understands the art of the percussionist.

*Never Home* proves to be a setback only because it is not as good as Johnston's previous efforts. Fans of Johnston will be satisfied with his latest effort. But only satisfied because they'll be eagerly awaiting his next record.

## Sequels, sequels everywhere

By Keith Fredericks  
Editor-in-Chief



The scent of summer sequels sizzles; this is my sixth installation of *Sequels sequels everywhere*. Once again I have gathered up the hollywood gossip and will present it here.

A summer of sequels long remembered is about to unfold. *Alien: resurrections* will show us how cloning can be used to save mankind. Ripley is back, cloned, and ready to kick some xenomorph butt. Winona Ryder is trading in her tomboy look for a more action-orientated tomboy look.

On the other side of the cloning microscope, Steven Spielberg readies the summer's blockbuster, *Jurassic Park: The Lost World*. Steven's a little pissed about the fluke success of *Star Wars* this winter (Luke Skywalker kicked ET's butt in total gross), and hopes to get back on top. *The Lost World* will no doubt do for cloning laboratories what *Jaws* did for beaches.

It would be redundant to mention or imply that *Star Wars: The Clone Wars* (this cloning thing is getting out of hand) is in pre-production. Nor will I mention that a star from the hit *Jerry Maguire* will play Darth Vader.. Guess who? Can you say, "Show me the light saber!"

Lost in the hype of the *Star Wars* Trilogy, is the *Brady Trilogy*. Those far-out hipsters are back for the third installment of the groovy Brady Bunch legacy. Please bring back Harvey Clinger.

What's worse than a movie based on a video game? It's sequel! On August 1st, *Mortal Kombat: annihilation* will hit the big screen. As a side bar, another popular arcade game, *Tekken*, will be hitting the big screen next year, shortly before the *Tekken IV* arcade machine is released.

Keanu Reeves and his exquisite acting ability will be lacking in this summer's blockbuster-wanna-be, *Speed 2: Cruise Control*; though Sandra Bullock answered the casting call. Keanu obviously figures his music is more important than another tacky melodramatic kissing scene with Sandra.

Mel Gibson is still trying to get a piece of (I mean make peace with) the gay community. I wouldn't be surprised if Riggs came out of the closet in the next *Lethal Weapon*. Mel will receive 25 million for the fourth installment of the series.

Randy Quaid and his drunken wit will not be accompanying Will Smith and Jeff Goldblume in *ID42*. Hopefully the sequel to last summer's blockbuster won't be another rip off of *Return of the Jedi*, *V*, *War of the Worlds*, and every other alien invasion story.

Speaking of *Bad Boy* Will, he and Martin Lawrence will pair up again for *Bad Boys II*.

Pierce Brosnan is resting up after that nasty compound fracture he experienced in *Dante's Peak*, and will be brushing up his English accent for the next James Bond flick.

Hollywood is like a box of bread; you always know you're going to get something dry and stale." That's a quote from the next *Forest Gump* movie.

Your mission, if you choose to accept it, is to follow up a blockbuster movie, without a returning lead. *Mission Impossible* will cruise to theaters without Tom in 1999.

Known for its tripping like affect, *Disney's Fantasia* has spurred the first animated full length Disney film sequel. Well that hurts to say, and the movie will most likely hurt to watch, but it will no doubt be great.

Deep in the heart of Gotham, Alicia Silverstone puts on her tights for the first time. This summer, George Clooney will go batty, Arnold's cold expression will be more literal, and Uma Thurman will play the comic book character she's been playing her whole life. *Batman & Robin* will be the second highest grossing movie of the summer. One question though: how is it that Commissioner Gordon (Billy D. Williams), and Batgirl (Alicia Silverstone), are supposed to come off as Father and daughter?

And in Metropolis...It's a bird, it's a plane, no, it's Nicholas Cage! Better him than Chris Farley. *Superman Lives!* will be based on the DC comic book series *The Death of Superman*.

That's all folks. See you in the theaters.

The  
Special  
Olympics  
Fun  
Day  
will be held  
at  
Elliot Field  
April, 10  
from 10-2pm

## First Friday Films

On Friday, April 4th, two films by Alain Resnais were shown in Ellis White as part of the First Friday Films series. *Night and Fog* tells a vivid tale of Nazi concentration camps during World War II. It is filled with graphic details and actual footage, grotesque and shocking images of death. The film ties the present-day buildings, abandoned and overgrown with weeds, to scenes in films and photos taken during the war.

*Hiroshima, Mon Amour* is the story of two lovers who meet in Hiroshima, intertwined with the town's history involving the second

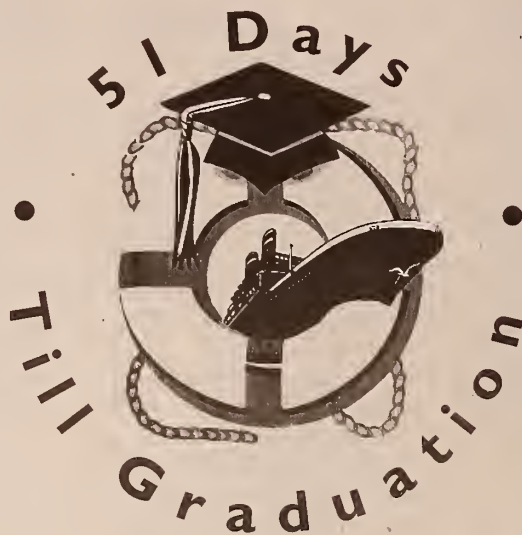
world war. The film is surrealistic and strange; the ambiguities are planned, because life doesn't always make sense. The underlying message reflects the fact that remembering is everything, but sometimes it can hold you back.

Tom Murray, Professor of English, led discussions before each film, as well as a group discussion which followed the presentations. The First Friday Films series is sponsored by Cultural Affairs.





# Win a Free Cruise Exclusively for Seniors

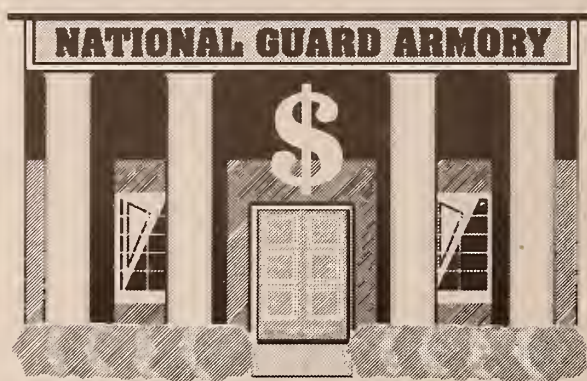


**Thursday April 10th 8-12 pm**

**Free T-shirts and mugs to the first 51 Seniors**

**Food, Beverages, Karaoke, Photo Buttons!**

**Alcohol served 21+**



## **COLLEGE FINANCING 101**

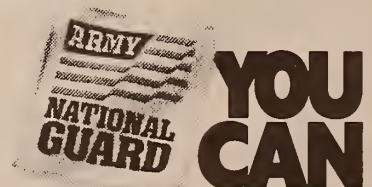
Each year thousands of college students are forced to drop out. The problem is not with their academic standing, it is their financial status. They can't pass or CLEP out of "College Financing 101". The Massachusetts Army National Guard has over \$21,000 available to each student who qualifies. Through programs such as the Montgomery G.I. Bill and 100% Tuition Waiver, students can concentrate on grades, not bills. The Tuition Waiver is good at 28 participating state colleges, community colleges and universities.

All it takes is about two days a month and two weeks a year. Serving your country and community today can help build a better tomorrow.

For more information about the Massachusetts Army National Guard call today:

**1-888-NGPRIDE  
(1-888-647-7433)**

**MASSACHUSETTS**





# NO COVER CHARGE WITH THIS AD

# STOOGES

PUB



Wednesday, April 9th  
*Open Mic with  
Mike Ordway*

Thursday, April 10th  
*John & John  
A duo for Mr. McPheely*

Friday, April 11th  
*Nasty J and  
The Grinders  
- Blues Band from  
Boston -*

Saturday, April 12th  
*Moonstruck and  
Friends*

## COMING EVENTS

Wednesday  
April 16th  
*Karaoke*

Thursday  
April 17th  
*Mike Ordway*

Friday  
April 18th  
*Mr. McPheely*

Saturday  
April 19th  
*Skootch*

**Looking for a summer job? Come see us!**

## Student Athletes of the Week

The Strobe and the Athletic Department would like to recognize the Men and Women's track teams as this week's athletes of the week. After last week's snow storm, both teams spent countless hours shoveling the track to prepare for the Co-ed invitational meet this past weekend. Due to their dedication the meet was a total success.



## Starting a life after drug addiction

-DRUGS  
continued from page 5

that really me or was that someone else who did that?"

When Steve entered detox he was a person he never dreamed he'd be. He was a liar and thief; he only cared about himself. Steve described what detox was like. "If you ever saw the movie *Clean and Sober*, that's just how it is. People try to sneak stuff in all the time, going two days without sleep. It's all real, it ain't just Hollywood make-believe," Steve said.

All of that is behind him: Steve has moved on with his life. He now holds a steady job at a company in Waltham. He has

gotten two promotions in the

***When Steve entered detox he was a person he never dreamed he'd be. He was a liar and thief; he only cared about himself***

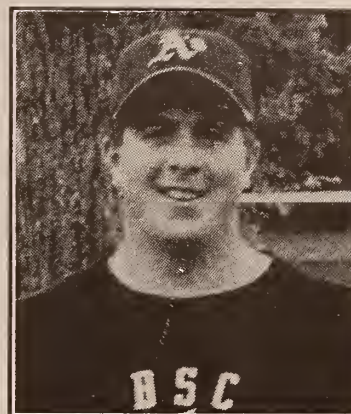
past year and plans to move into his own apartment next month.

"I keep in touch with some of the people from rehab and they give me support," he said. He feels he can make it if he can keep in touch with the people who add a positive influence to his life, and stay away from those who have added negative influences.

"I think the most important thing about recovering is realizing that only you can decide whether or not you want help; you will succeed only if you want to succeed," he said. "If you go into it without a full commitment you're only fooling yourself." Hopefully, Steve won't be that fool; he's already appears to be succeeding.

## Intramural Corner

Brian Bicknell  
Intramural Director



### Indoor Soccer standings:

#### Top five goal scorers

1. Eric Nolan - 11
2. Rony Lambert - 10
- Nate Arnold - 10
4. Darren Damian - 9
5. John Toney - 8
- Scott Sorenson - 8
7. Steve Grico - 7
- Patrick Baldwin - 7

#### Top five assist leaders

1. John Toney - 9
2. Scott Sorenson - 7
3. Nate Arnold - 6
4. Patrick Baldwin - 5
5. Eric Nolan - 4
- Jim Zitano - 4

### Special Olympics

On Thursday, the Special Olympics will be starting at 10:00 am at the Track. Please come and show your support.

### Sign-Up Now!

People can still sign-up for:

- Beach Volleyball
- Outdoor Co-ed Soccer
- Wiffleball
- Punt, Pass, Kick

### Miscellaneous

Field Hockey and Street Hockey Intramurals will be starting up soon. Please contact the intramural office or call me at 665-3726 for more details.

## Upcoming FSC Action

### Wednesday April 9

Baseball at Clark University	Away	3:30
Women's Track vs. Simmons College	Home	3:30
Softball at Rivier (2)	Away	3:30

### Thursday April 10

Softball at Plymouth State College	Away	4:00
------------------------------------	------	------

### Saturday April 12

Baseball vs. Bridgewater State (2)	Home	noon
Women and Men's Track at Williams Relays	thb	

### Tuesday April 15

Baseball at Curry College	Away	3:30
---------------------------	------	------

## Quote of the Week

"Every day is a new opportunity. You can build on yesterday's success or put its failures behind and start over again. That's the way life is, with a new game every day, and that's the way baseball is."

- Bob Feller

Cleveland Indians pitcher

**The Strobe needs a photographer**

Those interested in joining our staff-CALL 665 3647



## Baseball Season Preview

by Michael J. Poirier  
Sports Editor

Last season the FSC Baseball team finished at a disappointing 6-27 after posting consecutive double-figure win seasons for head coach John McGuirk. With eight lettermen gone from the 1996 squad, McGuirk has his program in a rebuilding phase and will be looking for leadership from team captains, Todd Price, Derek Kilduff and Carlos Alberto.

Price, a senior, is coming off a solid season in which he batted .301 with a homerun, five RBI and a .420 on-base percentage. Kilduff, a junior, batted .271 last year with six runs scored and three RBI. Kilduff also started six games as a pitcher last year and posted a 1-4 record with 12 strikeouts and a 7.43 ERA. Alberto, a senior, will provide the team with some offense in the middle of the lineup as he batted .270 and drove in 19 RBI in thirty games last year. Going into his fourth season, Alberto has 32 career RBI and is an ex-

ceptional defensive first baseman, posting a .979 fielding percentage over his career.

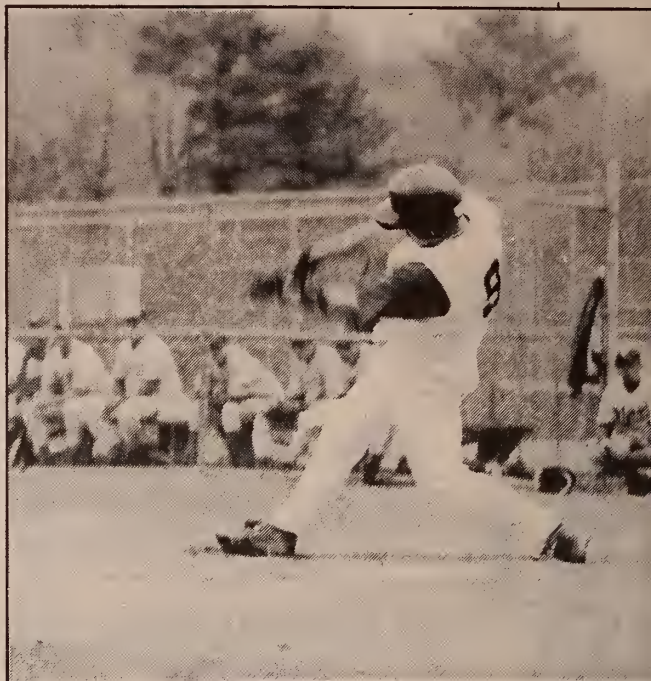
Junior Chad Garner, a transfer student from MASCAC rival North Adams State, is projected as the starting designated hitter for FSC and will also backup Alberto at first base. Other strong contributors this season will include sophomore Matt Gauvin, who although batted only .196 in limited play last year, only committed three errors last season in twenty-four games, and posted a .962 fielding percentage in the process. Sophomore Jim Ingram is projected to play the outfield after hitting .266 with 14 runs scored, 12 RBI and stealing seven bases in his freshman campaign. Ingram is one of the fastest players on the team and also posted a .950 fielding percentage last year.

Also returning for their sophomore campaigns are Tom Levett, who went 0-2 with a 10.33 ERA last year in 18 1/3 innings of work; Ian Murray, who is projected as a backup

outfielder for McGuirk this season; and Bill Shea who will be coming out of the bullpen this spring.

Out of the twenty-plus players that McGuirk will suit up this spring ten are freshman including Dan Berube, who was a Telegram and Gazette All-Star for Lunenburg High School last year, Josh Bremberg, who is a projected starter at second base this year and Matt LeBlanc, who was a two-time Mid-Wachusett B All-Star for Gardner High School. Other freshman include Eric Woods, Josh Hall, Eric Kieltyka, Darren Damiani, Brian Thibodeau, Kris Day and Shane Martin.

McGuirk boasts a young team which will be hard pressed to duplicate last year's team batting average of .296 and will miss All-Star Steve Baldassare's big bat in the lineup, but should provide some great moments on the diamond come this spring.



Carlos Alberto

Photo courtesy of Dave Marsh

## FSC Co-ed Invitational Track Results

Compiled by Katie Brace  
FSC's Women's Track team

Even with the snow storm that plagued the campus and the state last week, the Fitchburg State Men and Women's track team hosted the FSC Co-ed invitational, with the men finishing third place overall out of nine teams and the women placing fourth out of ten teams.

The women were paced by Katie Brace, Stacy Barrett, Suzanne Whitnell and Maryann Barrett. Brace finished first in the 400 meters with a time of 1:00.77 and also finished fifth in the 200 meters with a time of 28.08. Brace, along with Stacy Barrett, Cheryl Briggs and

Maryann Barrett finished third in the 4x100 with a time of 54.54. In the 5000 meters Suzanne Whitnell finished first with a time of 20.45.05 and Karen Druker came in third at 26.12.60. In the 400 hurdles Annmarie Campo came in first at 76.34 and with Brace, M. Barrett and Becky Zavista finished second in the 4x400 meters with a time of 4:26.9. Also contributing to FSC were Stacy Barrett who finished second in the Javelin with a throw of 108'6 and Sandy Ruddock who finished third in the High Jump (4'10).

For the men they were led by Chris Coutu who finished first

in the Javelin with a throw of 171'2 and took third in the Long Jump (19'2 3/4). Also finishing in the top ten in the long jump were Brian Murray (6th - 17'1 1/2) and Jeff LaBrode (7th - 17'1). In the High Jump Jeff McCarthy finished second with a jump of 5'6 and in the 100 meter dash Jason Bramble captured third place honors (11.85) while our own Strobe Editor-in-Chief, Keith Fredericks finished sixth with a time of 12.26. Other strong performances were turned by Eric Nolan who finished second in the 400 meters with a time of 51.44 and Mark Teator who finished third in the 400 meter hurdles at 62.87.



Chris Coutu

Photo courtesy of the FSC Track Team



Photo courtesy of the FSC Track Team